

RADIO-PERCEPTION

THE JOURNAL OF THE
BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS

Vol. XI No. 81



SEPTEMBER, 1953

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JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS

Vol. XI No. 81

September, 1953

NOTICES

Members are reminded that subscriptions for the year July 1st, 1953, to June 30th, 1954, were due on the former date.

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A book by Mme. Marguerite Maury entitled *How to Dowse, Experimental and Practical Radiesthesia*, has recently been published by Messrs. G. Bell and Sons Ltd. at a price of 11/6.

The book by Mr. V. D. Wethered, B.Sc., entitled *A Radiesthetic Approach to Health and Homoeopathy or Health and the Pendulum*, is obtainable at the price of 10/6 to non-members and 8/6 to members.

The following books are also published by the Society:—*Dowsing*, by Captain W. H. Trinder, 10/- (7/6 to members); *Radiations*, by T. Bedford Franklin, M.A., F.R.S.E., 8/6.

* * * *

Thanks to the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Young, of New York, who have financed the reprinting of the *Proceedings of the Scientific and Technical Congress of Radionics and Radiesthesia, 1950*, mainly for distribution to institutions in the U.S.A., a number of copies are now available for sale at the price of 7/6 post free. Applications for copies accompanied by a remittance should be sent to the Acting Secretary, 74 New Cavendish Street, London, W.1.

* * * *

Copies of *Radiesthesia IV* can be obtained from Miss Barnard, 4 Wimpole Mews, London, W.1, price 5/-.

* * * *

Information has been received regarding an International Congress of Radiesthesia in all its branches to be held in Paris, in 1954, probably towards the end of May.

* * * *

It is proposed to arrange with the appropriate authority for members of the Society to assist in the tracing of people who are actually missing. Those who are interested and who have practical experience in this branch of dowsing are requested to send in their names with their qualifications to Major C. A. Pogson, M.C., 1 The Drive, Hove 3, Sussex. Necessary expenses incurred by those who take part will be refunded by the Society.

Mr. L. E. Eeman has kindly passed on to us some of the books in the radiesthetic library of the late Major E. A. Menzies, which was presented to him by Mrs. Menzies.

These books, which now form part of the B.S.D. library, are as follows :—

			<i>Pages</i>
Adam et Givelet	La Vie et les Ondes	1936	294
Auque	J'impose les mains. Dieu guérit	1951	210
Baraduc	L'Ame Humaine	1896	299
Bosc	De l'Aimantation	1910	338
Brochenin	Traité de Radiesthésie et Télé- radiesthésie	1937	328
Carrel	La Prière	1944	32
	L'Homme, cet Inconnu	1935	393
Christin	La Guérison par les Fluides	1938	80
Disery	La Colombophilie Radiesthésique	1938	41
Frammery	Les Radiations " S " des Sourciers	1931	100
Gilles	La Radiesthésie	before 1944	125
Jagot	Initiation à l'Art de Guérir par le Magnétisme Humain	1935	235
Lambert et Creuzé	Etudes sur les Influences Cosmiques	1941	202
Lambert et Gaillard	Le Mysétre du Sourcier	?	184
Lakhovsky	La Terre et Nous	1933	188
	L'Oscillation Cellulaire	1931	316
	Radiations et Ondes	1937	80
	La Peau, filtre de Santé	1939	48
	L'Oscillateur	1934	58
	L'Eternité, La Vie et la Mort	1932	218
	L'Universion	1927	270
Le Prince	Les Radiations des Photographies	1941	243
	Les Radiations Humaines	1931	201
Luy	Devenez Radiesthésiste	1941	75
Mertens	Radiesthésie, Téléradiesthésie	1940(?)	343
Mollet	Le Magnétisme qui guérit	1929	276
Montandon	Les Radiations Humaines	1927	407
Moreur	La Foudre, Les Orages, La Grêle	?	125
Moreux	La Science Mystérieuse des Pharaons	1938	249
Perrin et Mathieu	Les Eaux minérales	1925	280
Rigaux	Les Ondes Cosmiques	1932	64
Roux	Verités sur le Diagnostic Radies- thésique Médical	1936	164

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The title page and contents of Volume X of *Radio-Perception* can be obtained gratis from the Editor on application.

* * * *

Contributions for the *Journal*, preferably in typescript, should be sent to the Editor at least five weeks before the first day of March, June, September and December, if they are to appear in the respective *Journals* for those months.

The price of new *Journals* to members, in excess of the free number, and of old *Journals*, is 2/- and 1/6 respectively.

Six free copies of the *Journal* will be given, on request, to writers of articles in it, in addition to the usual copy.

* * * *

The Society's badges can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary for 1/3 post free.

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Communications for the Editor, and inquiries, should be sent to Colonel A. H. Bell, York House, Portugal Street, London, W.C.2.

* * * *

A blue cotton handkerchief was found at Cuckfield Park after the Summer Meeting. The owner should apply to the Editor for its return.

We much regret to record the death on July 16th of Lt. Colonel F. A. Archdale, M.B.E., author of *Elementary Radiesthesia* and editor of *The Pendulum*, a monthly review of Radiesthesia.

We also regret the death on August 13th of Mr. John Clarke, of Ab Kettleby, at the age of 86. He was famous as a water diviner and as a tracer of missing people; in the latter capacity he is believed to have assisted the police in finding the bodies of drowned people on more than 70 occasions.

SUMMER MEETING, 1953

Thanks to the kindness of Miss Black and Miss France, the lessees of Cuckfield Park, the meeting this year, on August 8th, was held in unusually attractive surroundings. The oldest part of the house itself dates from 1574 and the various additions made in the last four hundred years in no way detract from its romantic appearance. Near the house are extensive lawns and flower beds, whilst the park, now largely under cultivation, forms a background of great natural beauty.

Early in the afternoon about 45 members and their friends assembled at the gate houses which stand at the end of the long avenue from the main road. Proceedings were started by Major C. A. Pogson, a diviner with an unrivalled reputation, who gave

a short talk about dowsing in general and then went on to describe his own particular method which depends on the use of a little-known instrument called motoroscope to amplify the dowser's muscular reflexes. He explained his procedure for fixing the position of underground flows in a given area and demonstrated his laborious but accurate method for estimating their depth by walking in circles round a point on the line of flow until the instrument ceases to move.

A demonstration of a very different method was then given by Lieut.-Colonel H. C. Davis in the unavoidable absence of Colonel K. W. Merrylees. His method, in which he uses the traditional forked rod made, not of wood but of whalebone, and the pendulum, involves the observation of three reaction bands on each side of the line of subterranean flow, one of which forms the basis of his estimation of depth, whilst he estimates quantity by the method of 'series' in accordance with a personal scale. Unlike Major Pogson, who is an adherent of the purely physical method of dowsing, Colonel Davis, like many other dowsers to-day, avails himself of the information to be obtained by a preliminary examination with a pendulum of a map or plan, and he explained his method of procedure.

Mr. Noel Macbeth then took the field and demonstrated the use of an apparatus employed by the well-known and venerable French engineer and dowser, M. Louis Turenne, for locating underground streams and mineral veins and finding their depth and quantity. As this method is unfamiliar to most of our members, Mr. Macbeth has kindly undertaken to contribute a short description of it to the next issue of *Radio-Perception*.

Thus three very different methods for achieving the same objects were demonstrated by three experts and we owe our thanks to these members for the trouble they took in making the meeting a success.

During the latter part of the afternoon several members attempted to trace the path of a pedestrian from a start at the east side of the gate house to a finish, after a devious course round the main building, several hundred yards away. Portions of a sock the pedestrian had been wearing were given to each competitor, not one of whom, however, succeeded in finding the course beyond the first abrupt turn.

The meeting broke up about 4.30, when some 35 members betook themselves to tea at Oekenden Manor, a picturesque house of the 17th century owned by the well-known Sussex family of Burrell for the last 300 years.

Thanks to the brilliant weather, the pleasant surroundings and interesting demonstrations, the meeting this year may be counted a success.

VENTURES IN AMATEUR DOWSING

An Address given to the British Society of Dowsers on May 13th, 1953

BY LT.-COLONEL H. C. DAVIS, O.B.E., A.M.I.MECH. E.

Introducing the speaker the Chairman said: Ladies and Gentlemen, Our lecturer to-day, Colonel Davis, has been a member of our Society for many years, and I have often heard of him as an experienced dowser.

More than once I have tried to get him to give us a talk about his activities, but it is only now, after his retirement from the Army, that he has been able to comply."

My presence here to-day in the guise of a lecturer is solely due to the assiduity and persuasiveness of our President, Colonel Bell.

In response to his request, oft times repeated, to give a talk on my dowsing experiences, I do so now with some trepidation in view of the fact that the Society contains many members who possess more experience in the subject and a knowledge far greater than mine.

Nevertheless, I am tempted to proceed in the dual hope that to all it may prove interesting and to others, should they find anything previously unknown to them, set them on a new train of thought. To those, and there must be many whose knowledge exceeds that vouchsafed to me, I ask their indulgence, since I cannot increase their knowledge in my lecture to-day.

Like several members of the Society, I began my interest in India. In 1923, whilst walking round the perimeter of a wired-in Campo in Waziristan, my then Commanding Officer asked me whether I could use a twig to discover the presence of water. For half an hour I was unable to discover any motion of the rod. At the end of this period when almost giving up hope, I became aware of a movement of the rod not previously recognized by me. This, then, was my initiation into the dowsing impulse.

Crossing water mains in the camp gave me practice in the art and confirmed in me the process of divination by rod. The next eight years passed without being able to add much to my existing knowledge. This was due to being unable to find anyone interested or able to divine themselves—and with whom one could check results. Nor at this time was I aware of the Society.

In 1932 my service travels having taken me to Palestine, it so happened that the house I occupied lay next to that occupied by the government geologist. We became friends but it seemed that Dowsing and Geology were not exactly in agreement! As opposed to this, I was asked to accompany certain officials on a tour of an apparently dried up river bed east of Jerusalem. A water shortage in the summer had become a serious matter and the supply had been much reduced in issue. I indicated a spot at which I thought water could be found though it meant much

pumping to convey the water to fill the city's reservoir. When pressed to say whether or not water existed I indicated that as far as I could say it could be found but no guarantee was implied. I am sure it was there—two things seemed to make it likely—I was told subsequently that Roman mosaic flooring, part of a bathing establishment, had been found nearby and, further down the valley where it became the Wadi Kelt, a stream issues from the bed on its way to the River Jordan. Soon after this I was posted to Egypt and have heard no more of the project.

To anyone who knows the road from Jerusalem to Jaffa the name Enab will be familiar, for it is here that one sees for the first time on this road the plain stretching away to the blue Mediterranean, 10 or 12 miles distant. Here too is found an old established monastery. I had a brief but interesting meeting with one of the brothers who was an exponent of the steel wire rod with his own system of counting with foot beats to indicate depth and quantity.

During the years 1933-34 I plodded on—this time in Egypt. It was in Cairo that I met the late Mr. Capes, who was a member of the British Society of Dowsers and deeply interested in water divining.

In 1934 I spent a holiday in the island of Corfu. Nearby to our hotel I came across Greek well-diggers excavating for a water supply. The site was very rocky and explosives were used to go deeper. I explored the site and pronounced it waterless. This they would not believe but when the time for my departure came I noticed they had abandoned the working.

Early 1936 saw me stationed in Mersah Matruh as a member of the British Forces in the Western Desert. I heard mention of "Roman wells" and the name so captivated me that I felt bound to visit the area. Needless to say my rod accompanied me. The scene bore little relation to the name bestowed upon it—there were no wells as such. The story goes that an Arab ploughing on his land came across a properly hewn stone which, seemingly immovable, had others built in with it. He reported the fact in certain quarters and money was made available for excavation and tracing of this work. It was found that this was the stone entrance to an ancient water system said to go back prior to the time of Roman occupation and to have been built by the Phoenicians. It was said also to have been one of the very few places on the North African coast from which armies could obtain supplies of water. So, in 1936, it interested the Royal Engineers quite a deal as a fresh water supply for British troops by normal means of provision was becoming inadequate as the number of troops increased. The task facing the Royal Engineers was formidable. They did not know the system, its direction, depth, whether it contained water or not—and in any case it seemed blocked up with sand with no surface indication to help

them. So they did it the hard way by commencing at the stone entrance and with native labour began removing the sand blocking the system. Every so often they came to a vent hole to the surface, long since blocked with sand, but as to where the next one was going to be found no-one could even guess. Progress was slow. It must be borne in mind that here there were no modern methods since the soil had to be carried along the cleared gallery by a native with a shallow basket for sand removal. A second native could enter only when the first had emerged. In these parts the deposition of sand can be very rapid, and 1,500 years or more left its toll—the galleries then, perhaps 10 feet below the surface, now being 24 or 30 feet below in most places. By the slow process mentioned, quite a few yards of water carrying gallery had been cleared. As a system it ran in anything but uniform straight lines throughout its course. When cleared the gallery took the form of a subterranean cutting with perpendicular sides and arched roof. The bottom had in effect a horizontal shelf on either side with a central water carrying area between them at a lower level. Presumably this was the means by which in those days one traversed the galleries. What interested me was that I was able to trace on the surface the direction taken by the water gallery. The Royal Engineer officer in charge of the excavation produced a sketch drawn from compass bearings taken on a lighted candle (with distances when changes of direction took place). Together we traversed the surface—he following me with sketch, and our findings agreed very sensibly. I thought at the time that not only would it assist the digging party but speed up the clearance of the system; at least the discovery of each manhole or vent ahead of clearance would mean that sand clearance from several vents could be conducted simultaneously. I was asked also to demonstrate my method to the Governor of the area, which I did.

Very soon after I had to return to England and was obliged to leave the authorities still endeavouring to increase the yield by extension of the channels excavated. Rain in this area is almost unheard of. It is conjectured that the water in this collecting system had percolated down to it from high ground eight to 12 miles inland. Nothing is visible on the surface. To draw off, at that time, more than 10,000 gallons per day rendered the resultant supply brackish—so fine a balance had the ancients struck between the lowest level at which fresh water could lie and that of the sea. In some places the sea is only 50 to 100 yards distant from the system.

My early contact with the British Society of Dowsers did two things for me—it introduced me to *The Modern Dowsers* by Le Vicomte Henry de France, and to a real expert in the art—the late Mr. Gregory. I learnt at first hand answers to many questions which had accumulated in my mind. I owe him a great debt.

The year 1937 saw a period of collaboration with Mr. Latham of the British Society of Dowsters. He was thinking of writing a history of Kensington Barracks and I suggested dowsing as a means of discovering the path of a supposed underground passage. At this time, dowsing by plan became of paramount importance and through it was discovered a large set of foundations which we believe to be of Roman origin. Unfortunately, excavation was, and still is, impossible. A small digging at a depth of about 13 feet disclosed two single shillings of Henry VIII with that king's features plainly visible. Also from the same area came a penny of James I and a groat of Mary's reign.

The year 1938 saw me in Colchester. Here I had some success. On the edge of the War Department land was a range warden's cottage, without a supply of water. It seemed that another officer had indicated three sites—all of which proved to be "dry." On checking the sites I found that the reason was due to mistaking reaction lines for the "stream line." By preparing a plan and dowsing thereon I found a stream dividing into two, each of the latter passing one in front of the cottage and the other behind it. On the far side they again formed one. With the Warden, a spot was chosen for a future boring. About two months later I saw a boring had been done and a rotary pump fitted. All was now well.

Soon after I was requested to go to a camp site in Suffolk. Here the camp was half built with pipes and tanks laid—only to discover that a 1914-1918 well had given out in 20 minutes pumping.

Three courses lay open to the Authorities:

- (a) Send the requirements of 10,000 gallons per day by road tanker
- (b) Move the site and begin again, but where?
- (c) Sink a new bore.

Course (c) was the final choice.

Working most of the day sent me home with so much information and a multiplicity of streams that I was bewildered in my choice and quite non-plussed. Having been asked to revisit the area on the next morning, I decided that night to dowse on a map of the camp. Fifteen minutes or so left me with a clear scheme of things for the next day. All my findings were confirmed on the site by a professional well borer who was also a diviner. Three days later 2,000 gallons of water (full pump capacity) per hour was being pumped from a depth of 104 feet.

About this time, too, I came across *Dowsing* by the late Captain W. H. Trinder. I have found this book, and that by Vicomte Henry de France the best two books for my purpose on the subject.

By plan dowsing I believe that I had happened on a Roman amphitheatre in a certain town. I still cannot guarantee it

because being on War Department land and the C.R.E. of the area not belonging to the British Society of Dowsers, that, and the war put a stop to further excavation. I hope to go back one day.

1944 found me overseas near a certain formation headquarters. I offered my services but can only suppose that the lukewarm interest shown in an itinerant diviner or an abundance of water, were responsible for my not hearing a single word from that day to this. One is prompted to think of thirsty places like Gibraltar where water is obtained at present by collecting rain water from a catchment area. I believe water could be obtained by boring and thus augment existing supplies, if not remove altogether the constant threat of a water shortage or the necessity for stringent rationing.

Dowsing on maps and sketches interests me more than a little. Consequently, I attended the Annual Meeting last summer at Horsham, with a copy of the map issued by the British Society of Dowsers. I prepared my copy at home with my version of the stream system. I believe my results compared quite favourably with the "school solution."

Leading from this, I went on to try dowsing for oil. On this I am engaged at the moment and hoping for good results. I have reached agreement on sites with Major Pogson, including one not previously known to me at which boring is now in progress.

For those not versed in the science of dowsing the following list or "kit" of tools are considered essential:

- (a) The rod—I prefer whalebone. It is light in action, uniform in operation and unaffected by the wind.
- (b) The pendulum—almost anything on a string suffices. I use a glass ball from a chandelier. With its string or cord it is adjustable for length and object of search. Not entirely dependable in a strong wind. Useful as a check on the action of the rod.
- (c) Map or sketch to scale for pendulum dowsing.
- (d) Rule for taking measurements on scale maps or sketches.

Method of Search—I use a standard system.

- 1. If not in existence, I prepare a map or sketch to scale. The north point is inserted, also main features (roads, farms, &c., as applicable). In any case a sketch is usually required sooner or later to record findings.
- 2. Orient the sketch. Adjust length of pendulum string to conform to object of search. (Fundamental facts can be found in books of Vicomte Henry de France and Captain Trinder). Mark map accordingly.
- 3. With sketch, rod and pendulum visit the site and confirm—including yield and depth.

The above system saves endless time and much walking. It gives a preview of what and where one can expect to find the object of one's search.

It also acts negatively, i.e., an area can be declared void of say underground streams; equally water potentialities on a site for a proposed house can be prospected without trespass and the site accepted or rejected if not considered suitable. It is useful too where time and distance precludes a visit to the area in question. Distance from a site it seems proves no bar to divination by pendulum, whether the site be in Surrey or South Africa.

A DOWSER AND HER WORK

BY COUNTESS MARYLA DE CHRAPOWICKI

Members of the B.S.D. who have met Frau Anka von Knoblauch or who have heard of her work may like to know more about that gifted dowser. It was through the introduction of Dr. Dudley d'A. Wright that we met, and soon a real friendship grew between us. At first I knew her chiefly in the capacity of a Magnetic Healer and Health Specialist with rooms in Adderley Street, Cape Town, and a large practice which kept her busy from early morning often late into night. After I took up residence at Sea Point, which is quite close to Green Point where Frau Anka, for that is the name by which she is generally known, has her flat, we began to meet regularly several times a week, discussing many subjects of mutual interest and studying together some of the rare books which she has in her magnificent library. It was then that I began to know the real "FRAU ANKA," learning more about her gifts and methods of work, and it is some of those dowsing methods that I wish to describe to-day, (a) dowsing for water which she does professionally, visiting farms; (b) her special way of freeing houses and grounds of underground streams; and (c) her method of discovering radio-active minerals in the earth and changing barren and dry soil into a healthy and fertile ground.

Water Dowsing

As a water diviner Frau Anka has a very high reputation and is well known not only in the Cape Province but in most parts of South Africa. In that country where water is often a problem of life and death a reliable dowser is as precious as gold. It is true that there are many water diviners claiming to find wells, it is also true that they find water but unfortunately after the tedious and costly process of boring has been accomplished the water often proves to be brackish and obviously quite useless. This is a complication which makes the water problem so much more acute. The reliability of Frau Anka in that respect is quite outstanding; not only does she locate *sweet water* but she also

gives exact information as to the depth of boring, and the quantity of water that will be obtained daily. I well remember one afternoon sitting in her flat and listening to repeated telephone calls from a desperate farmer failing to strike water and Frau Anka answering quite calmly, but in a positive way, urging him to continue boring until the foretold depth was reached, and finally a victory call announcing the successful result.

In her work Frau Anka does not use any tools, no rods or pendulums, but only her own hands, which she holds palm to palm, at first rather high almost touching her face, and gradually dropping them in slow jerks. She does not go through any bodily contortions or ridiculous motions but is completely calm, composed and concentrated, there is no spectacular activity attached to her dowsing and one always gets the impression of stability and reliability while watching her advance slowly from place to place. When she begins to feel water the hands begin to shake, pulling down, and the nearer she comes to the source the stronger becomes the pull and more pronounced the jerking, which culminates in a rapid trembling. The two snapshots may give some idea of the changes in the position of the hands as she comes nearer to her destination.

Diverting Streams

This line of her work is most interesting and to many people very puzzling though even the incredulous are soon forced to admit that something does take place, even if they cannot find a satisfactory explanation.

The first steps consist in locating and tracing the course of an underground stream running under a house, a barn or in the garden and affecting the health of the inhabitants as well as their animals and even plants. Having located the most active point or points Frau Anka proceeds as follows: kneeling on the floor or ground she holds in her left hand a tool made of pure steel, designed by herself and made according to her instructions. It looks like a small hand *anvil* which she places on the ground over the place to be treated, holding it very firmly in position. In her right hand she holds an ordinary hammer, with which she strikes the anvil with all her strength with short staccato strokes. This activity continues until satisfactory results are obtained, that is until the contaminated region ceases to give undesirable reactions.

Frau Anka calls this operation "diverting a stream," an expression which has been often criticised and ridiculed and all sorts of explanations have been advanced though none has so far actually solved the mystery. Personally I can see no objection to the word "divert," because I think it is quite possible. To most people the word "stream" awakens at once the thought of a river—something very big flowing through a deep bed

which of course could never be diverted by tapping on a piece of metal placed over it, but, if we realise that the earth is simply percolated with minute streams, some no wider than a hair, the proposition takes on quite a different light. For example if such a thin thread of water were running over the surface of the ground it would be quite easy to divert its course by simply blocking it; why then could not a similar thing happen under the ground? Instead of blocking the stream with mud and dirt its course becomes diverted by tapping, which creates an electromagnetic disturbance in the whole field thereby deflecting a trickling stream or even a group of streams. Personally I believe that it is something of that sort that happens, but whatever the answer may be the fact remains that the method brings beneficial results and that habitations treated in that way become dry and healthy, and the inhabitants recover from all sorts of ailments.

Radio-active Soil Pollution

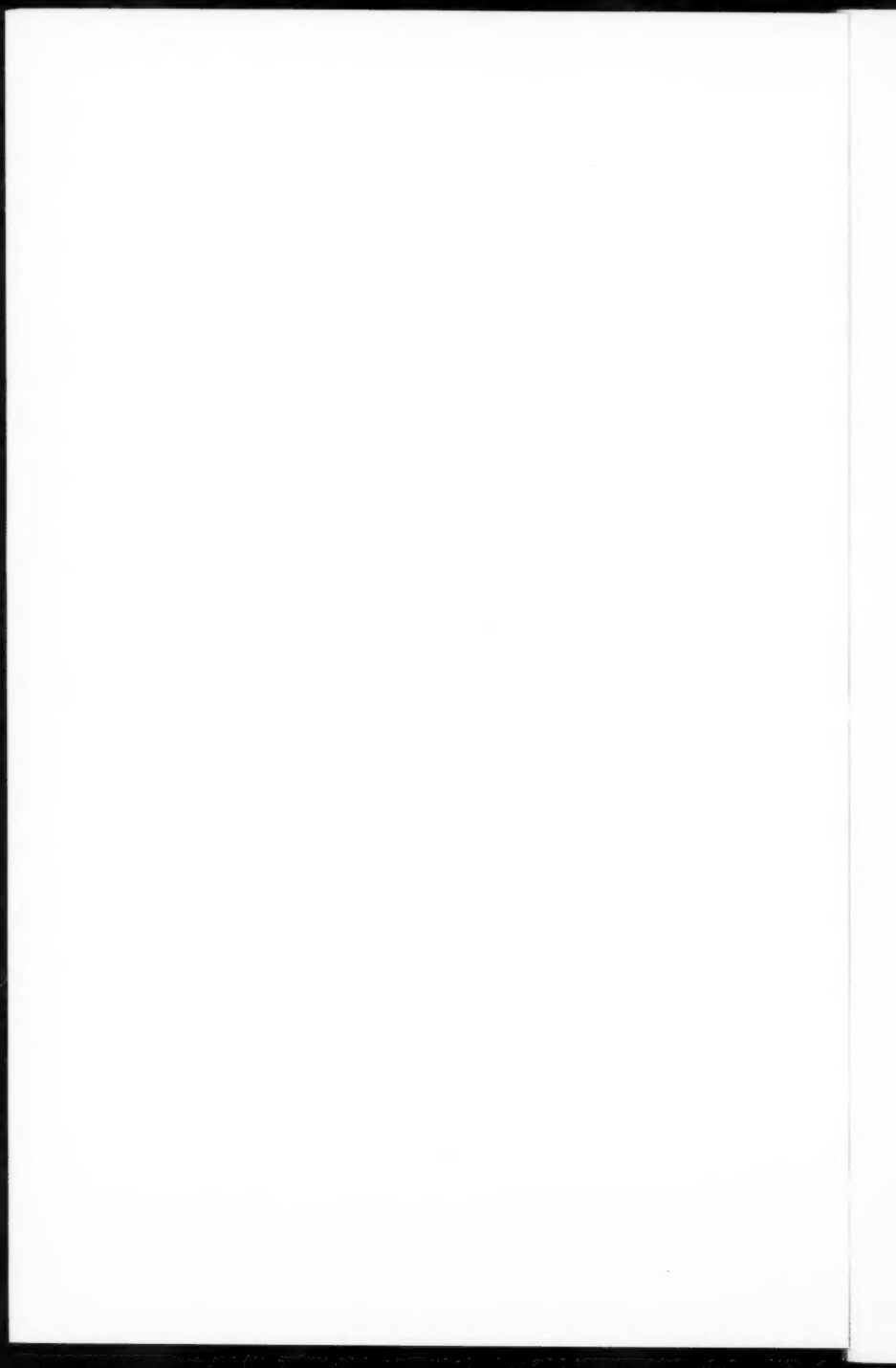
The third line of work to which I wish to refer consists in reviving dead and arid soil. In this operation Frau Anka again uses her hands for testing. She begins in a similar way as in locating a stream and having found the most active radiations she takes a shovelful of the top earth, places it on a newspaper, and divides the earth into two heaps. She then retests each heap separately, discards the one which gives no reactions and retain the radio-active one. This last one is again divided into two lots and again tested in a similar way, the negative one being again discarded and the radio-active lot retained.

This dividing and subdividing continues until no more than a teaspoonful of the original earth is left. From that lot she picks out a few strongly radio-active grains, which are dropped into a small bottle, about two ounces in volume. The bottle is then filled with pure water and left to stand for twenty-four hours. Next day this radio-active water is carefully drained into a watering can containing ordinary water and the arid land is watered with it. The radio-active minerals are left in the little bottle which is again refilled and the process repeated day after day until a result is obtained. In my own garden at Sea Point one long and narrow strip of earth lay completely barren, nothing would grow, not even grass, and it looked like a real little Karoo desert. After Frau Anka found and extracted the radio-active bits of gravel I immediately put her instructions into operation and to my delight within three months the patch became fertile and flowers which I planted grew big and healthy.

This little account of the gifts and methods of work of my dear friend Anka brings this narrative to an end, of course a whole volume could be filled with innumerable descriptions of her healing and dowsing achievements and perhaps some day she will come to England and favour us with a personal talk and demonstration.



Frau Anka Dowsing with her hands only



FOUNDATION FOR THE STUDY OF PSYCHO-PHYSICS

A copy of the Third Annual Report (March, 1953) of the *Stichting ter Bevordering van de Psychische Physica*, (anglicé as above), which was founded on July 18th, 1950, with headquarters at The Hague, has been received.

The report includes seven branches of study, viz. :—

- I. The muscle-tonus reflex
- II. Paragnostical phenomena (telepathy and clairvoyance)
- III. Sex-prediction of embryos
- IV. Geographical and geological distribution of cancer in the Netherlands
- V. Physical embryology
- VI. Geopathology
- VII. Cosmic influences

whilst VIII deals with International contacts.

Under I three types of research were undertaken. In the first, experiments were carried out with about 30 dowzers in a large room, the floor of which was divided into a number of squares. Each dowser was requested to indicate the exact position of the dowsing zones. It was found that only in seven out of 30 cases was there any reasonable unanimity. Further experiments were undertaken to test the consistency of individual dowzers in repeating locations at the same spot. For this purpose each dowser first located a zone in the above-mentioned room. A portable chamber was then introduced into the room, and the dowser, having been blindfolded and turned about so that he lost his sense of direction, was lead into the portable chamber, the floor of which had been covered with cloth in order to conceal any possible indications. The bandage was then removed so that the dowser could work untrammelled. Even under these unnatural conditions a number of dowzers indicated dowsing zones in the same positions as when dowsing freely in the large room.

In the second type of research under I studies were carried out on the possible relationship between dowsing reactions and geophysical fields. Preliminary studies by Dr. S. W. Tromp, in 1950 had suggested a relationship between the electrical resistance of the soil and dowsing zones, the latter having been indicated before the resistivity measurements had been taken. Experiments since 1950 had confirmed this probability. It was

found that the cause of low resistivity in meadow country near Oegstgeest was due to the sudden rise in the level of peat layers under the top layer of clay.

The claim that dowsing zones are liable to be struck by lightning was also studied. A number of places at a low elevation which had been struck by lightning in preference to nearby masts and trees, were examined and it was found that in all such places the resistivity of the soil was low. This co-relation between soil resistivity and dowsing zones was only apparent when the electrodes were spaced sufficiently far apart—usually more than 2m., otherwise only superficial differences in humidity were recorded—and when the different conducting zones were not close together. It was also found that it is not the absolute resistivity which is of importance but the gradient ratios; in other words a drop from 80,000 to 8,000 ohms seemed to produce the same effect as a drop from 8,000 to 800. Finally it was found that during one month considerable changes in underground conditions may occur causing a temporary complete disappearance of a dowsing zone.

The third branch of research dealt with the possible biological effects of dowsing zones.

(a) Bulbs which had been planted, some on and some off dowsing zones as charted by dowers, were examined by the research biologist at the end of the season. The weight and size of the crops were carefully determined, but no significant difference was noted between those gathered from dowsing zones and those from neighbouring areas. This negative result from the site selected, the only one available at the time of planting, was probably due to the fact that the dowsing zones were not very strong and were rather close together, and sometimes changed their position during the experiment.

During 1952 a striking case of the influence of a dowsing zone on a privet hedge was observed at Oegstgeest. The zone had been indicated about two years before the hedge, crossing it at a certain spot, was planted. Exactly at this place the growth of the hedge was severely hampered so that there were practically no leaves. A soil resistivity profile revealed a zone of high conductivity which, it was discovered, was due to a layer of peat which rose from 1.50 m. outside the zone to 80 cm. within it, creating a high acidity and iron content.

(b) Laboratory experiments were being prepared by Dr. A. G. Audier on the lines of the well-known experiments which Dr. Jenny carried out 12 years ago in order to find out whether the development of artificially created cancer tumours was accelerated over dowsing zones.

(c) A number of requests were received for the examination of houses in which there were continual complaints of rheumatism, insomnia and other medical ailments, on the supposition that these disabilities were due to the influences from dowsing zones. Such requests were always complied with, and statistical material is being collected, but no confirmation of the hypothesis can be given at present.

(d) In view of the increasing interest of farmers in the possible biological effects of dowsing zones on agricultural crops and of the influences of many of the various neutralising instruments sold to them, the Minister of Agriculture set up a committee of four scientists with Prof. A. J. P. Oort (holding the chair of phyto-pathology at the Agricultural University of Wageningen) as chairman. Close contact is being maintained with this committee and their co-operation in further experiments on the lines of those in (a) above is probable.

Experiments under II were carried out by research groups at Amsterdam and Haarlem mainly on the lines of those of Professor Rhine, Prof. Soal and numerous others. They seem to have no particular bearing on the subjects in which we are interested.

III. *Studies on the sex-prediction of embryos*

A very sensitive new electric micro-voltmeter for measuring skin potentials was developed by a physicist co-operating with the Foundation and has been in use for regular biological measurements since the end of 1951. The end in view is to discover whether pregnancy and the sex of the growing embryo will show up in the skin-potential pattern as suggested from observations made by dowzers, but much more experimental work must be done before the main problem can be tackled.

IV. *Geographical and geological distribution of cancer in the Netherlands*

Statistical studies carried out by Dr. J. C. Diehl, formerly Surgeon-general of the Royal Netherlands army during the last 15 years, and by Dr. S. W. Tromp since 1946 show that the peculiar geographical distribution of cancer in the Netherlands can be only partially explained by differences in age groups. Other unknown factors, physical or physio-chemical, seem to activate or counteract the development of cancer in certain cases and it is the study of the influences of these unknown external physical fields which particularly interest the Foundation.

The results of the studies of Dr. Diehl and Dr. Tromp, the former mainly in the period 1900-1930 and the latter between 1930 and 1940, carried out independently, were so similar that

the value of co-operation between a physician and a geologist was obvious, and since March, 1952, they have been working together. Their results will be published by the Foundation in a separate paper in the near future. A series of iso-carcinome maps was given to the medical inspectors in the Netherlands in July, 1952. Personal contacts in England with Dr. Percy Stocks indicate that exact results obtained in England by Dr. Haviland and Dr. Stocks are similar to those obtained in the Netherlands.

V. *Physical embryology*

Experiments were carried out by Dr. W. Bon, a bio-chemist, to test the effects of electric and magnetic fields on the development of the fertilised eggs of *Artemia Salina* (a small crustacean), but in no case was any change observed.

VI. *Geopathology*

Since July, 1952, Dr. S. W. Tromp has been engaged on experiments regarding the possible connection between fluctuations in the electric fields of the atmosphere and variations in soil and medical complaints such as increased rheumatic pains. Similar studies are being carried out by Richter in Germany and by Mörikofer and Courvoisier in Switzerland in connection with Föhn disease.

VII. *Cosmic influences*

(a) Reports from scientists in the U.S.A. and Germany suggest that the birth frequency of children is influenced by meteorological and cosmic factors apart from other well-known causes. For the past five years daily and hourly records have been made and will be continued in coming years, of the number of male and female births at Leiden, and the data obtained will be compared statistically with the local meteorological records.

(b) A project is in preparation for the study and check of reports on a possible relationship between cosmic factors (sunspots, planetary positions, &c.) and certain pronounced psychological characteristics in human beings.

VIII. *International contacts*

The Foundation's research officer, Dr. S. W. Tromp, has made contacts with several centres abroad which are studying certain aspects of psycho-physics and considers that a particularly valuable contact of a more permanent nature was made with the Fundamental Research Centre which he visited in February of this year. He also went to Scotland and visited Sir David Russell and his son, Major David Russell, the general directors of the F.R.C.

DOWSING IN CALIFORNIA

BY GASTON BURRIDGE.

MORE THAN 2,000 DESERT WELLS

I never think of Lake Elsinor without thinking of Verne L. Cameron.

Lake Elsinor, California, lies in a natural hollow of beautiful high blue hills. It is saline, fed from mineral springs, both hot and cold, and trapped runoff from surrounding mountains. It is about five miles long, two wide. Because of many mineralized hot springs surfacing in this area it has become a region of spas.

Near the south end of this lake lives Verne Cameron, one of the greatest proponents the art of dowsing has in this State. A tireless experimenter, Cameron is one of the few men I know of making his living from the practice of dowsing.

One of Cameron's dearest possessions—and, in fact, a veritable storehouse of information covering his dowsing activities over more than a quarter of a century of an active career—is a thick scrap book. This book contains photostated copies of checks he has received for dowsing wells, purchase orders made in his favour from several departments of Government both of the United States and Mexico. There are letters of testimonial as to satisfaction with, and accuracy of his dowsing work. There are many clippings from newspapers, and magazines relative to his locating activities including published maps made by him charting underground waters of several sorts. Here will be, I feel, when Mr. Cameron is through with it, one of the most valuable documents of dowsing material ever assembled.

It is difficult to pick from the scores of interesting testimony on Cameron's dowsing any particular well as his "most interesting," for there are many such. But pick we must, so I chose one I believe reveals to advantage, both the soundness of Cameron's technique as well as one which should add considerable "proof" that there is "something" to this art of dowsing so many seem to wish to deny.

In the high San Jacinto Mountains is a tiny resort settlement known as Fern Valley. It needed a more adequate water supply. Those in charge hired Vern Cameron to locate a well site. The altitude is above 6,000 feet. There is a thin soil covering—then granite—gray, hard, old mountain-top granite! Cameron made a location. He said adequate, good water could be found by drilling 254 feet at the place indicated, but it would be through granite all the way. Further, when they reached the fissure carrying the water, said water would rise to within 30 feet of the surface—when pumped, a designated spring farther up valley would stop flowing—actually, the water in the seam was flowing *uphill* under pressure!

This well was drilled. The vein was found at 254 feet. It was fine water. It rose in the well to within 28 feet of the surface and when pumped the designated spring upcanyon stops flowing as long as the pump runs!

If there is "nothing to dowsing," then Verne Cameron is a mighty good "guesser" and could make a lot better living "guessing" the horses, or at Monte Carlo, Las Vegas or Reno!

How many water wells has Verne Cameron dowsed? He says after he reached 2,000 he stopped keeping track. That was some years ago.

When I asked him if he had ever "missed" on a dowsing he replied, "As far as I am concerned, no. As far as some others are concerned, yes. You can take your choice. But remember, improper drilling methods and tools, crooked bores caused by striking the edge of a large rock, use of explosives to 'shoot' a well, inaccurate logging of depth, not using casing where it should be used or using it where it shouldn't be used—all these—and many, many more can easily make a 'liar' out of a dowser. When you consider fully 60 per cent. of well drillers have no patience with dowsing or dowsers you begin to understand how some of our difficulties arise."

Cameron began his dowsing career with a forked stick but found it did not fit into his nature or methods beginning to shape themselves around his work. It became apparent he would have to invent his own tools. These instruments have been an *evolution*, and something of a "revolution." Some dowsers cannot use them at all—or feel they can't. Others use them well enough, but prefer their own devices, and dowsing being the highly individualistic art it is, nobody makes any quarrel about the matter—especially Verne Cameron. He builds these instruments for sale but makes no claim for results in other hands. He knows what they do for him.

He calls this instrument an "Aurameter." While it is a simple tool it is difficult to describe. It is a "one hand" device, held in the palm's curve, the last three fingers clamping it in position. The thumb and index finger are placed each side of a metal fin, upon the other end of which is fastened a flexible, six inch shaft whose extreme end holds a small metal "plumb bob" shaped piece. This fin and shaft are delicately pivoted into the handle held by palm and three fingers. Action of this instrument is felt from pressure exerted on index finger and thumb, one side or other, the "plumb bob" end wishing to move toward water, or substance sought. Cameron uses no "affinities," "reactors" or "samples."

Cameron has invented another instrument used when searching for oil. This device is held in both hands—hands clasped about it, is cylindrical in shape and made of metal. Upon its top is set a cap holding a short arm carrying a metal "nubbin" on

its extremity. This cap is free to turn on a ball bearing set in the body. Also, against this rotating cap is arranged a brake operated by inward pressure applied by the thumb edges of the palms. When over oil, this cap revolves with considerable speed, and depending upon how much pressure the operator must apply to completely stop rotation, signifies relative size of the oil pool.

Mr. Cameron has done considerable experimenting along lines of determining patterns of the human aura. His "aurameter" assists him in these experiments. He also has done interesting investigating along lines of tracing "thought patterns" of objects as projected by a group of individuals. Many of these experiments are described at length in his book *The Aurameter*.* My personal acquaintance with such matters is nil therefore I am in no position to comment upon them.

Cameron centres his activities on locating water. That is the crying need in this desert land. I know of no other dowser who has found a greater number of water wells than he. His next interest is location of oil. In this instance, because of the great amount of money required to develop an oil well—from \$50,000 to \$100,000—he has not seen the results of his dowsings materialize anywhere near the extent of his water findings.

He practises "long distant" dowsing but does not appear interested in "map dowsing." In this mountainous desert country it is always important to know whether a well will be "hot" or "cold." Cameron is able to determine closely whether a proposed well is to come hot or cold. Often, in this region, water has considerable hydrogen sulphide gas mixed in, making a disgusting smell and the water hardly potable. However, such water is satisfactory for irrigation purposes. Very often it can be aerated and made usable. Cameron has often predicted such conditions.

But with all Vern Cameron's successes have come many a heartache and disappointment—jobs that didn't materialize—work gone unappreciated—recognition earned and deserved but unplaced—experimental testimony not allowed a recording—a voice raised but unheeded. I think his attitude was pretty well summed up in a recent letter to me when he said, "I've had enough disappointments in my life until I've gotten so I thrive on them; they are my food and drink. I don't expect anything else, so when something does come my way, it is really cause for rejoicing."

OIL AND WATER MIXED

The blue Pacific rolls its white capped wrinkles against the rocks, across the sands and into the caves of Laguna Beach, California. High over the sea's head, yes, even higher than its

* See review in *B.S.D.J.*, IX, 80, p. 103.

far horizon, lives H. H. Henshaw, dowser, who has mixed oil and water finding as successfully as any of the nearly 100 dowsers it has been my pleasure to meet.

Now 81 years old, but spry as a cricket, Mr. Henshaw still is an active dowser. His interest is in locating oil. One of the few dowsers I know who has been able to "cash in" on his ability to find oil by getting it to the surface—Henshaw has a comfortable income of royalties from a string of wells he located many years ago in the San Joaquin Valley of central California.

Mr. Henshaw learned to dowsse sometime before he was 20 years old and has been at it ever since. He has dowsed for both oil and water all over California, in Alaska, Canada and Arizona. He uses any green fork with sap in it for water and has a contrivance of his own invention for oil. He can use a "seasoned" forked stick with a small container of oil lashed to the joint of the fork but prefers his own device.

This instrument is a small diameter steel rod about 18 inches long. To one end is attached a brass button or knob. He holds this between the index and second finger of his right hand, his thumb on the opposite side of the button. On the other end of this steel rod is attached a small glass bottle containing the sample of the oil he is searching for. As there are many different types of oil, Henshaw has many bottles, each filled with a different type oil. Also, from the end carrying the "sample bottle," is attached a small diameter, long, coiled spring, of proper strength just to compensate for the weight of the sample bottle at the end of the steel rod, thus holding the rod horizontal to the earth—or at any very slight upward angle. The other end of this spring is held between thumb and index finger of the left hand. When over oil this "bobbing stick" oscillates up and down.

By counting these oscillations and multiplying by a constant he has determined to be correct for him, Mr. Henshaw can compute at what depth the pool or oil-bearing sands lie. When I asked his method of arriving at the *quantity* of oil lying under a given location he replied he had no "definite way, except how the stick behaved in his hands." If it seemed to become very active and remained so for a considerable time he concluded the pool was sufficiently large to pay drilling for.

There is little "shallow" oil left about these parts any longer; it mostly lies below 3,500 feet and the expense of drilling to such pools is considerable, costing about \$50,000.00. There are many deep wells, averaging below 6,000 feet. These cost much more to complete.

Mr. Henshaw has experienced no difficulty with his method of determining depth, except in cases where a large pool lies below a smaller one. In such cases the bobbings of his rod have to be watched carefully for any pause, this marking the depth of the first pool and the beginning of counting for the second

one. Before Mr. Henshaw realized this care was needed, he believed his depth determinations were faulty.

As to water locating, Henshaw says he can locate both moving water and "quiet." The quiet water, lying in subterranean pools he calls "sheet" water or "blanket" water. He says that dowsing hilly country is more difficult for him than flat ground—but only because, he thinks, of the extra physical exertion required to overcome the terrain. He has kept no record of the number of water wells he has dowsed but says it is many.

Mr. Henshaw is interested in both "long distant dowsing" and "map dowsing," and has done considerable, later years, of both. He showed me several maps he had dowsed for oil, carefully marking the boundaries of the pools. Also on these maps were pinpointed locations where drilling was already in progress by several of the U.S. major oil companies. He told me they would find no oil where they were drilling. In fact, one hole was already below 9,000 feet, and another rig was down below 7,500 feet. Neither had found oil at that time. Both holes have been abandoned since, I understand, so it looks as if other "professionals" besides dowsers make mistakes too!

Mr. Henshaw learned to dowse from his father, who also had the ability. He does not recall much about the early instructions or "practice" he went through then. He says he left home when he was 20 and could dowse well at that time, so he is not just sure how long he has been at it. It is safe to say there are not many who have been dowsing longer!

As far as Henshaw knows, his mother did not possess the dowsing power, but as he remembers her, "she was a very sensitive woman," and he believes she may have had the ability but didn't know it. If she did not have the power, then we have the interesting condition, not too often encountered, where the ability was passed to the son from the *father*—rather than from the *mother*, to the son. Though it cannot be definitely declared as fact, most cases seem to indicate that dowsing ability, when inherited, passes from mother to son, and father to daughter, sometimes from grandfather to grand-daughter, grandmother to grandson.

As nearly as Mr. Henshaw can recall, his deepest water well was dowsed at between 800 and 1,000 feet. His deepest proven oil well, many, many feet deeper.

I asked about "misses," or failures in his dowsing career. "I have missed on depth, many times," he said, "especially where a large pool lay at considerable depth below a smaller one. I found I could count right through to the lower pool and several times they found the oil at much shallower depth than I predicted. Finally, I tumbled to my trouble. I have been off many times on the quantity of oil a pool contained but no location I have

made has ever been without *some* oil. In other words, I never have located a 'duster.' I have been pretty close in predicting the quality of the oil found. The gravity has never been off too far. I am not sure of natural gas, its quantity, its quality or its depth—if alone. Pretty generally there is some gas with oil but I don't seem to be sensitive to it."

We salute, then—if not *the* dean of dowzers, a dean among them!

54 YEARS A DESERT DOWSER

Tucson, Arizona, lies within the southern fifth of that great State. It is situated in high desert country, 2,500 feet above sea level, with mountains both east and west and is now a city of over 45,000 population.

For more than 50 years R. A. Wetmore has lived, dowsed water wells and drilled them in the Tucson area, yet, when I wrote the Chamber of Commerce there asking for names and addresses of dowzers in that vicinity, they answered they knew of none, didn't believe there were any in the region!

Ralph Wetmore was only 13 years old when he discovered he possessed the necessary ability to find underground water with a forked stick. He has been locating water wells all over the desert ever since and he is now 68.

Mr. Whetmore says he has found many hundreds of water wells, how many hundreds would be just a wild guess on his part. He uses a forked stick mostly. It can be willow, peach or mesquite. In fact, any sort of wood, not too brittle but native to the location of the dowsing, will work in his hands. He has had some success with a large clock spring, stretched out like a forked branch, but prefers the natural stick.

How Wetmore came to discover his water finding powers so early is an interesting yarn. A mining company near his home in Tucson, imported a water diviner from the far eastern State of Pennsylvania to find some wells for their operations. Mr. Wetmore says this dowser was very good. It so happened Wetmore was given the job of driving this imported dowser to the mine from Tucson in a horse-drawn light wagon known in the west as a "buckboard."

Of course he remained to see the dowser work. After watching the procedure carefully, boy-like, Wetmore wondered if he couldn't do it too. He tried—found he could! He practised on some local wells of known depth, thus developing his technique in determining distance to the water. Soon, he came proficient in this important feature of the art.

Such information got abroad in so small a community as Tucson was then, and as it did Wetmore began getting regular calls to search for water. Not long after this he was taken into Old

Mexico to do some water locating for the Governor of the State of Sonora. All his dowsings there proved correct. This was quite a feather in such a young man's cap.

Wetmore grew to manhood dowsing. Then, he took a course in mining engineering only to learn from his textbooks and professors, dowsing was a fake! He knew better. After graduating he decided to engage in the water well drilling business. That has been his life's work.

Mr. Wetmore has had much experience in boring for water through soil, sand, gravel and rock formations of different types. All these have helped perfect his judgment in all geological matters. He still is a confirmed dowser—has dowsed and brought in water wells in the States of Mississippi, Texas, New Mexico as well as over the entire state of Arizona.

He has never tried dowsing for any other mineral or substance nor has he experimented with other methods of dowsing. His dowsing interest has been for water wells and he has let it go at that. His deepest well proved is 1,000 feet—it still is a very good well and is located in a barren stretch of the high Arizona desert.

Wetmore says he has missed a few wells in his experience. They were early ones. He discovered the reason for his missing and corrected his dowsing procedure to overcome it. The cause of these early errors was a highly magnetized iron ore lying over the water about 300 feet deep. How he learned to overcome this difficulty he did not disclose. He feels he has had better than 98 per cent. successes.

Most of Mr. Wetmore's dowsing is for water in granite formations where fractures, seams or veins in the rocks are small. These require the well be accurately "spudded in" and bored straight or it will easily miss the desired stream. In this type of drilling he has been able to calculate, through dowsing methods, how high the water would rise in the casing when the vein was tapped.

When Ralph Wetmore was 23 years old he happened to come upon some men in an old field. A "field" in Arizona can be any size—sometimes a mile square! The year was 1909. All water had to be shipped into this area by tank cars. It was very expensive and the service unreliable. This group of men were trying to dig a well to save a herd of cattle from thirst. The temperature was about 115 degrees in the shade—and there wasn't any shade. This location had been made by another dowser. The diggers were down 90 feet—much deeper than the dowser had predicted. They were all discouraged—about ready to give up. The rock was getting harder by the inch. They were tired out. The water seemed as far away as when they began. The owner of the cattle was about ready to shoot them rather than let them choke to death.

Wetmore told these men he too was a water locator and he'd help them. He cut a forked branch from a nearby mesquite and dowsed their location. He found they were withing two feet and a half of the water! He suggested they place a charge of dynamite in a small hole bored in the centre of the shaft. When it was exploded water broke through the shattered rock—rose several feet in the shaft. That well saved those cattle!

Mr. Wetmore has used his dowsing ability all these years in connection with his water well drilling and feels it has aided him materially in his success. Like other successful dowsers, he believes *careful* dowsing is essential to good results—good wells. He thinks, also, while ability to dowse is inborn, experience in the *use* of the power is necessary also if first class results are desired. It is his opinion, further, that different dowsers have varying amounts of this most necessary ability—that some can never become as proficient as others because of their innate lack. He attributes many dowsing failures to lack of enough inborn acumen. Wetmore feels the lack of study and experience in the correct use and application of these natural powers can also hinder even a *good* dowser. He says, "One learns to walk before one learns to run. One may have long legs, but there is a lot to running besides long legs!"

PENDULIST OF OJAI

Miss Dorothea Frood was born in London, England, coming to the U.S.A. in 1936. I asked her where and how she learned to dowse. She told me the late George Bernard Shaw was visiting her family in London, years ago, and was relating to them how he had just returned from Ireland where he had encountered his first experience with a person having dowsing ability. Miss Frood said her sister stepped into another room, obtained a metal key which she tied to a string. This she held over the playwright's head, and it came to life. He was much astonished. So was Dorothea when she discovered the same key became alive in her own fingers!

While living in New York City Miss Frood heard of a beautiful valley hidden among the coastal mountains of Southern California, near the famed city of Santa Barbara. This valley was called Ojai Valley, with the little hamlet of Ojai nestled in its centre.

Ojai is pronounced as if it were spelled O-high-ee (long e), accent on the second syllable. Ojai is an Indian word which means "The Nest." It was given this name because the village seems to be swung in a nest of live oak trees between the high mountains.

Miss Frood migrated to Ojai in 1942 and it has been her home since. She is affiliated with the Theosophical Book Association for the Blind, Inc.

Miss Frood is a pendulist—one of the few I have found in this part of the country. True, I have come across many who can, and do, use the pendulum, but those who use it *exclusively* are scarce.

Several pendulums make up her collection. One of her most interesting was made by a friend. It is of four pieces of silver wire artistically bent and soldered into a graceful "plumb bob" shaped cage. Another interesting one is made of ivory, its thread held in the eye of an ivory handle. This pendulum has a screw top, a cavity beneath it, into which the "sample," "affinity" or "activator" is placed.

Dorothea Frood is one of five women radiesthetists and dowsters I have found in this south-western desert part of the United States. Why there are so few women interested in, or adapted to, this art, I do not know. Whether it is because women generally take less interest than men in discovering if they possess the ability, then following it up with application and study, or whether there is some physical, mental, spiritual or innate reason, I have failed to discover. Most ancient writings on the subject seem to speak mostly of men—seldom of women. Perhaps that phase of the subject is worthy of some investigative dowster's time and research!

While Miss Frood has located some water wells and mineral deposits, they have been few. She uses her talents for radiesthesia along lines of healing the ill, diagnosis of ailments, determination of proper foods, &c. She has also done some interesting experiments along the lines of killing fungi on plants by radiesthesia.

I asked her one of my favourite questions asked all dowsters. The question was, did she believe the dowsing ability was innate, or was it possible any person might acquire it by study and practice.

Miss Frood believes the force, gift, ability, acumen, power—whatever you wish to call it—is innate, that different persons fortunate enough to possess it possess varied amounts of it. She also feels different persons possessing the power can possess a special "knack" for different branches of the art. She also feels that one having the innate acumen can learn to use his amount of the ability to better advantage through careful study and practice of it along proper lines. These views coincide with similar ones held by a majority of dowsters I have contacted.

Also among Miss Frood's accomplishments is an extensive thesis on the pendulum, titled *Facts of Radiation in Relation to Pendology*. This thesis is written under 30 chapters and is about 18,000 words long. It contains a bibliography of 17 works, books, pamphlets and periodicals of relative matter.

As Miss Frood's interest in the pendulum is along healing and diagnostic lines, naturally she gives most space in her thesis to that branch of the art. This includes many and varied case histories. Some of these are from her own experience as a healer via the pendulum. I would like to quote a most interesting one.

"Two friends asked me to treat a young man of 32, on crutches, due to arthritis, which locked his knees. He had been discharged from hospitals as an incurable and sat all day in his shop, run by his wife. The treatment was given in a large store cupboard. The usual procedure was adopted, the shut eyes, slow, full breathing during the drawing downward and out through the toes the vibrations of disease. Presently, I registered with half conscious surprise a change in the iron-taut flesh and tendons under the kneecap. It soon became quite soft, whereupon I commanded, 'Now, take *deeper* breaths and make a *still* greater surrender to God, because I am going to move this leg up and down.' In a few moments the knee was loose enough for the leg to swing quickly and easily without pain. The process was repeated for the other leg. Then, he was told to stand, whereupon he jumped from one leg to the other in great joy. His face, too, was changed, no longer gaunt and yellow, but full and pink, his hair no longer dank and strawlike, but vitally golden and upstanding. The next thing I knew was he had pushed open the swing-door and rushed down the shop, his wife falling back behind the counter in amazement."

Miss Frood's thesis has most interesting chapters on "Qualities required to be a Pendulist," "Some Practical Experiments," "Pendule as Poet," "Construction and Materials of Pendules," "How to operate a Pendule," "Historical Data," "Service of the Pendule in Healing," "Pendology in relation to Chromotherapy," to name but a few.

Under the chapter-head of "Construction and Materials of Pendules" is found a list of materials from which a pendulum can be properly made. It includes pure crystal, gold (14 carat or above), glass, ivory, brass or copper, sterling silver, hard wood if coloured black, platinum. Among those material not suitable are aluminium and all its alloys, bone, plastic, soft wood not coloured black, iron, steel, tin, lead, zinc.

In this chapter Miss Frood states the best material, in her opinion, from which to suspend a pendulum is a *pure silk thread*. However, white or black cotton is good, also black hair or fine black string.

The best length for the string appears to be from three to six inches. It is Miss Frood's feeling that a string shorter than three inches prevents smoothness of swing and uncertainty of action.

There seems to be a difference of opinion as to whether "samples" are necessary or not. Miss Frood believes with the great pendulist, Abbé Mermet, that samples are of considerable benefit. I have found that a great proportion of dowzers I have contacted use samples, some being most particular as to quality and exactness of their affinities, believing that if one's sample is impure, then one also searches for its impurities as well as the item.

Many of us know dowsing to be a very ancient art—that knowledge of its use was possessed by many widely separated early peoples. Of the nearly 100 dowzers I know of in this desert region of the South-west, none is as well versed in the history of the dowsing art as is Dorothea Frood. Should some angel pause in its flight long enough to read this piece, I hope it will fly to Miss Frood with an offer to publish her thesis.

THE WEIRD "MYSTERY SPOT" OF SANTA CRUZ

BY VERNE L. CAMERON

Some years ago it was my privilege to visit the strange Mystery Spot out of Santa Cruz,* California, though nearer to the small city of Los Gatos.†

Driving through unbelievably beautiful forests of giant redwoods, pines, buckeyes and other native trees, and among wild azaleas, rhododendrons and other beautiful verdure in their natural habitat, we finally arrived at a place to which we had been directed in a small canyon where we parked our car and after paying a small admission fee we were directed to a shed on a sloping hillside. That was IT. Then began a series of unbelievable events.

The shed had slid off its flimsy foundations and a few feet downhill. A small crowd of sightseers were in and around it with expressions ranging from sneers at other's gullibility to utter amazement. There were startled yelps as one after another found they could not balance on the slope, but had to keep constantly on the move or fall headlong. One could balance himself just as he normally would on a comparable slope, but only for an instant, when suddenly he would feel as if invisible hands had pushed him and only a sudden step in the right direction would prevent a fall.

Two level blocks of cement, perhaps 12 inches by 24 inches in size had been cast in the ground near the shed, perhaps two

* See *B.S.D.J.*, XI, 79, page 9

† About Long. 128 W., Lat. 37.13 N.

feet apart. If two persons stood facing one another on these, the one on the east block, I believe it was, appeared to others to be several inches taller than the other, even though he actually was slightly shorter, while if they changed positions they suddenly reversed the apparent differences in height. There was an eerie appearance about them, the one standing on the west block somehow giving an illusion of distance, even though you could reach and touch him. A ball placed on the lower end of an inclined board did the impossible and rolled *slowly* up the board and fell off. Another block of cement caused a compass to behave in a most erratic manner. This, however, I believe to be a fraud, caused by magnets cast in the cement for effect. This was the only thing about which I could find the slightest question. I realized that they had left the shed in an inclined position to add to the effect, but inside it were other phenomena which like the farmer's giraffe "just weren't so."

A broom balanced on the floor stood far out of line with a string from the ceiling from which a weight was suspended. A heavy weight hanging by another cord or chain from the ceiling could be pushed to the left 10 inches with great ease, but when you endeavoured to push it to the right even half as far, it resisted mightily.

Since the shed (it was really a small house) was perhaps two feet lower on the west side than on the east, it was a little difficult to walk or stand on the floor but strangely enough it was nearly as easy to stand on the west wall as on the floor. This in about a 12ft. by 12ft. room with no more than a 2ft. drop on one side, was far out of line with the natural.

Having been called up to central California to locate some water wells, which was made possible by my invention of the marvellous "Aurameter" instrument, I was naturally armed with several other instruments, such as a compass, &c., so I felt sure on going to the Mystery Spot I was going to expose a neat fraud. I was determined not to give up without a struggle. When, after an amazing two hours, during which I called on all my ingenuity and resourcefulness, I was as far from the answer as ever. I finally regretfully started to leave. I happened to glance skyward at the stately, straight, towering trees which surround the building and the circular spot affected by the strange phenomenon. It was then that I received the shock which proved to me, without further doubt, that the conditions were not man-made. The tree tops all *leaned inwards* towards the centre of about a 50ft. circle.

This could only be accounted for by some kind of aberration of gravity.

Two years later my sister visited another almost indetical Mystery Spot in Oregon, I believe it was.

OSCAR BRUNLER

BY A. L. SWANHOLM

Dr. Oscar Brunler was born in Sweden May 12th, 1892, and died in Santa Barbara, California, August 1st, 1952.

It is said that he received his formal education in Belgium, France and England, and that he studied chemistry, physics and medicine at the Sorbonne in Paris and at King's College, London University. He won the Bessemer prize in physics in 1927 for his discoveries in connection with the Brunler Flame.

For some years he interested himself in the field of physics but later transferred his activities to the study of medicine and the application of new methods of treatment—principally through light and colour therapy. So successful were his discoveries in this field they were later adopted by Austrian and German Light Research Institutes and many well-known people from all parts of the world found their way to his consulting rooms in Harley Street.

It was while he was engaged in this work that he learned of Monsieur Bovis and his biometer and paid him a visit in France (1935) to see at first hand if he could do all that had been claimed for him and his instrument. He brought back to London a Bovis biometer and found it could indeed do all that had been claimed for it—that in measuring the radiations from the finger tips the health or disease of corresponding organs could be determined. He was puzzled about the radiations from the thumb, however, and it was not until some time later that he discovered this gave wavelength of the radiations from the brain which had no connection whatever with the health or disease of that organ, however, but which differed greatly in individuals according to their potential capacities for comprehension and performance.

Dr. Brunler was particularly intrigued by the mysteries and secrets of the human mind and it was in this fascinating field that he probably made his greatest contribution to mankind through this discovery of the emanations from the brain and a method of measuring the same to classify individuals according to their inherent powers of comprehension and perception. Before his death he had measured the brain radiations of over 25,000 individuals in all walks of life and in all ranges of intellectual capacity from the lowest imbecile to the man of genius. After many years of painstaking work and observation, he had done a masterful job of listing the characteristics and aptitudes of individuals in each range or degree of mental comprehension.

Noting that the brain radiation increased on an average of only one or two degrees Biometric from birth to the instant of death, plus the wide differences in comprehension and capacities between different individuals, Dr. Brunler concluded that the measurement of the energy emanating from the brain was also an accurate guide to the position of a particular individual on the path of soul evolution and that it presented conclusive evidence of the continuity of life through recurring incarnations on this or other planets.

It was his contention that following the law of polarity or duality, the energy measured on the biometer was not magnetic or electro-magnetic in nature but di-electric energy made up of non-charging neutrons and always found present with electro-magnetic energy. He had good reasons for this conclusion, one of the most patent being the fact that this particular type of energy was best conducted through materials of greatest non-conductivity in the case of electro-magnetic energy. His di-electric energy, of biocosmic energy, as he sometimes called it, he considered one and the same force as the *mumia* of Paracelsus, the vital fluid of the medieval alchemists, the animal magnetism of Mesmer, the odic force of Von Reichenbach, the nervous energy of Richardson, the X force of Eeman, the life force of Westlake, the *orgone* energy of Reich and the *prana* of Hindu metaphysics.

Dr. Brunler was considered by those who knew him best to be a mental giant and so far ahead of his time that few people have been able fully to follow and understand his advanced concepts and findings in the fields of physics, chemistry, medicine and metaphysics. To this learned man, the mysteries of life and death—mind and matter—causation—were perpetual challenges. He was forever striving to find the causes for the effects we see and feel all about us. His explanations for radiation phenomena including dowsing, thought transference, clairvoyance, magnetic healing and other so-called supernatural powers, are so logical and factual—so masterful in their presentation that they have been accepted by many as the only rational explanation for such phenomena.

Like so many great pioneers before him, Dr. Brunler was a man of prodigious energy and accomplishments. It was common practice for him to treat his patients all day long and then go out evening after evening to lecture on his findings and conclusions. His interests were so extensive and his comprehension so keen that he could converse on and add profound observations to almost any subject. By the measurements of the biometer which he perfected and brought to such an extraordinary use in measuring the radiations of the brain, as well as many other things, his was one of the greatest intellects of modern times.

During the last war he suffered heavy financial losses but neither this nor the ridicule and even scorn from orthodox science that at times fell to his lot for his revolutionary and unorthodox findings, seemed to discourage him. He took the bitter with the sweet—all in stride.

After the war Dr. Brunler travelled and visited extensively in India where he met many celebrities and did considerable research work in the field of radiation.

A few years ago he left England for America where he visited New York and Washington for a time before leaving for the Pacific Coast where he made Hollywood his headquarters. His activities in the United States consisted largely in lecturing and conducting classes on brain radiations, although his subject matter included colour therapy, physics, philosophy, metaphysics, &c. He also did considerable private consultation work along counselling lines. He was very well received in America and travelled extensively up and down the west coast lecturing on his findings and philosophy in his efforts to help his fellow men to achieve a better understanding of the purpose of life and their individual places in the eternal scheme of things.

He gave freely of his time to those who needed it most and was ever ready to share his vast store of knowledge with anyone he felt could profit therefrom. His gentle ways and deep humility endeared him to all who knew him and his untimely passing after an obscure and prolonged illness was a deep shock to the large following he had built up in the comparatively short time he had lived in California.

It is difficult for us to properly evaluate the works of a man of such extraordinary mental powers, for as Ruskin once put it, "It is a matter of the simplest demonstration that no man can be really appreciated but by his equal or superior." Like other great minds before him, Dr. Brunler received but little recognition while he was here amongst us but it is the deep conviction of his many students, friends and followers that time will bring this great pioneer in uncharted fields a far greater measure of honour and recognition than he received during his life-time.

His published works include *Astro-Physics, Rays and Radiation Phenomena, Radiations of the Brain, Body, Earth and Atom, A Scientific Philosophy of Evolution* and *The Influence of Colours on our Mind and Health*. At the time of his death, however, he had manuscripts for eight new books all readied for publication plus two volumes of his memoirs, all of which it is hoped will eventually be made available to the public. In addition to this, he confided to a close friend not long before his passing that he had over 2,000 pages of unpublished manuscripts on his findings in the field of radiation phenomena which he felt the world was not yet ready to receive.

HOW A MURDER WAS DISCOVERED

BY J. G. IN C.

Translated from an article in RGS of June/July, 1953, and reproduced with the permission of the Editor

On the sunny banks of the Lugano lies the little village of Caslano. A wooded hill separates a few houses from the main part of the village, which are dotted along the shore, solitary and deserted. In one of these isolated houses a crime was committed which, without the help of the pendulum, would never have been discovered.

A few years before the outbreak of the last war there dwelt in one of these lonely houses a certain bachelor S. It was apparent that he intended to turn his single solitude into a double one, for one day there was an announcement in the local paper expressing his wish to make the acquaintance of a young lady who would act as housekeeper, with the prospect of marriage later on.

A young woman from Berne responded to this appeal and was duly installed. Some time later her parents received a letter from S in which he regretted that their daughter and he did not suit each other as well as they had at first hoped. She had accordingly started for home and he had seen her off at the station. He could not say when she would arrive as she intended to stop a couple of days on the way. He had, in accordance with her wish, sent her luggage direct. When he returned to Caslano he had discovered the key of her box, which the girl had forgotten on her departure and, as he did not know where she was going to stop on the way, he was enclosing the key in his letter.

When, after a fortnight, the girl had not arrived home and no message from her had been received, her parents applied to S. in Caslano for further information. But he only repeated what he had already written, namely, that on June 5th he had seen her off on the train to Lugano and had heard nothing from her since.

The anxious parents explained the circumstances regarding their missing daughter to the Police who, however, were unable to throw any light on this mysterious disappearance. The only relevant fact they could produce was that S had on several occasions, for longer or shorter periods, indulged in female companionship, but no one knew who the women were or what had become of them.

It so happened that the parents had known for years about the radiesthetist K, who had made a name for himself, not only in Tessin but in places much further off, for his successful endeavours to discover people who had disappeared. So now they appealed to him for help in finding their missing daughter. Herr K asked for several worn pieces of clothing from the box which S had sent to the parents, as an aid to his inquiries, and

also for the letter which he had written to them and any available photographs of the girl or snaps taken by her in Caslano.

After exhaustive examination with the pendulum of the articles provided, Herr K was able to make the following radiesthetic report: "Your daughter is dead. She was probably strangled. Her body is in Lake Lugano at a depth of so many metres and at such and such a distance from S's house, and S himself is the murderer."

When the police received this information, they, as might be expected, asked the pendulist to accompany them to Caslano to meet S, and there to continue the investigation on the spot. This further examination involved entering the house of a dangerous criminal and accordingly all necessary precautions were taken.

The situation in which the Police was placed was one of some difficulty in that they had no proof that a murder had actually been committed but had only the radiesthetic inquiry carried out by Herr K to support this supposition. He was, however, very sure of the correctness of his results. It was a matter of ordinary prudence not to start an immediate search for the body of the missing girl directly in front of S's garden as it might arouse his suspicions and make him take to flight at once across country.

So it happened that one morning an unpretentious motorcar arrived at S's house in Caslano from which descended the Public Prosecutor and two particularly stalwart policemen in plain clothes, accompanied by the Pendulist. Fortunately S was found at work in his garden. The Public Prosecutor posed as a lawyer who wanted to make further more detailed inquiries on behalf of the parents about the departure of their missing daughter. The policemen were secretaries who were to put into writing any information given by S, whilst Herr K represented himself as a friend of the family who had offered his services in the quest. When the little party entered the house the first question raised was regarding the clothes the girl was wearing when she left. S replied to this giving the date of departure and the time of the train, which agreed with the information given by him in his letters to the parents.

The putative lawyer then asked the Pendulist whether he had anything to say, so Herr K asked S whether the missing girl liked taking photographs to which S replied in the affirmative. Thereupon K said "Look you, I have here a few photographs sent me by her anxious parents which I have examined in my own special manner. You tell me that you saw the girl off by the train to Lugano on Tuesday, June 5th. Are you quite sure that you are not mistaken, for according to my radiesthetic examination, that does not seem to be possible?" But S persisted in his assertion, so K looking him straight in the face said, "That is not correct for according to my examination the missing

girl was no longer alive on Saturday, June 2nd, and by Tuesday, June 5th, she had been deposited somewhere in the lake, here in front of your garden."

At these words S, in a state of utter confusion and indescribable rage wanted to hurl himself at the radiesthetist, but the two policemen at once grasped the criminal, extracted bonds for hands and feet from the typewriter case, overpowered S and made him a prisoner.

After this exciting scene the Pendulist continued, "Here is a snap of the room in which the girl slept, from which there is a view of the garden and the lake at the end. Let us go into the bedroom and I will try to retrace, step by step, the course by which you took your victim—not to the station but to the lake. At these words S went completely to pieces and the men who had arrested him had to exert all their strength to prevent him—beside himself with horror, pale and with staring eyes—falling to the ground in a state of collapse.

Arrived at the bed K drew the pendulum from his pocket. In his left hand he held a photo of the missing girl and in his right hand the pendulum, which he allowed to oscillate freely over one of S's hands. "It was here," he said, "that you strangled your servant on the night of Friday/Saturday, and next night you dragged her body through the garden to a boat." Thereupon the search party together with the prisoner left the room and was led by the pendulum in gloomy procession down the steps, down another flight behind the house, then right, then left along a path through the garden to the edge of the lake.

Here they found a boat with men who had been previously warned, provided with chains and grapnels. The Pendulist immediately took up his stand at a point on the bank and allowed his pendulum to oscillate, taking up a certain direction indicating that in which the body was lying in the water. This alignment was then marked with two stakes and a similar procedure was carried out at another point on the bank. The Pendulist now instructed the men in the boat to row away from the bank until they reached a point at which the two alignments could be sighted simultaneously—the geometrical point at which the body lay. The boatmen having found this point of intersection let down the grapnel and after several attempts a heavy object was gripped and raised to the surface by their united efforts. It proved to be a sack weighted with stones, containing the body of S's luckless victim. S, who had been so sure that neither he nor anyone else would ever set eyes on the body, was clearly proclaimed as the criminal.

Fifteen years have now passed since this occurrence, but shortly afterwards the Public Prosecutor declared at a legal conference that without the co-operation of the radiesthetist K, the crime would never have been discovered and atoned for.

NOTES AND NEWS

The *Auckland Weekly News* of March 4th contained a long article about Mr. W. J. Hackett, a 70-year-old dowser of Hawera. He has divined some 700 wells in Taranaki during the past 38 years and is satisfied as to his claim because he excavated the wells himself and in each case found adequate and constant supplies of water.

* * * *

The same paper of April 8th describes how Mr. H. Sole, a dairy farmer in the Rahotu district of Cape Egmont, often finds lost articles such as watches, motor hub caps and pieces of machinery, using a bronze rod and a "sample" of the missing object. On two occasions he has found the bodies of drowned men. He learned dowsing from an Auckland clergyman, Rev. H. Mason whose name is commemorated in "Mason's Spring" in Auckland.

* * * *

Several papers in the last few months, for instance the *Staffordshire Chronicle* of April 9th, have contained articles about the United Nations Technical Assistance Mission in Iran. Amongst the activities of the Mission has been the discovery of subterranean water supplies by means of aerial photography, but no explanation is given as to how this is done.

* * * *

As reported in the *Edinburgh Evening News* of May 20th, Mr. Robert Ballantine (B.S.D.) rediscovered at Leven a 50-year-old water main. It was found eight feet below the surface. Available maps were on too small a scale to enable the main to be pinpointed.

* * * *

The *Midland Counties Tribune* of May 23rd contains an account of a talk on water divining by Mr. W. G. Lines (B.S.D.) on the previous day, to the Nuneaton Rotary Club.

* * * *

An account of an interview with Mr. Robert Ballantine (B.S.D.) appeared in the so-called *Fifeshire* Advertiser* of May 23rd. The reporter states that he was at first sceptical of his powers but after demonstrations lasting over an hour was completely convinced. It is interesting to note that Mr. Ballantine uses the method of depthing with a mumetal rod devised by the late Major R. Creyke. He has been working professionally during the last five years and several of his successes are mentioned. In a recent letter to the Editor, Mr. Ballantine states that Messrs. William Kirkwood Ltd., of Forfar, have reported the discovery of water at a depth of 296 feet of over 2,000 gallons per hour at a site he had located at Baldardo Farm.

* Fife is not a shire.

REVIEWS

HOW TO DOWSE.

EXPERIMENTAL AND PRACTICAL RADIESTHESIA

By MARGUERITE MAURY. G. Bell & Sons. Price 11/6 net.

Mme Maury is a trained nurse and wife of a well-known homoeopathic doctor. As a result of a spectacular cure effected on the advice of the French engineer and radiesthetist, L. Turenne, they both became interested in radiesthesia. Mme Maury, who has given a great deal of time and study to the subject, designed an instrument known as the "Compensator," which she has applied successfully to the solution of many radiesthetic problems, including medical diagnosis and treatment.

This book is divided into two parts. Part I deals with radiesthetic problems in general and Part II with medical radiesthesia. It is based on lessons used in correspondence courses by a wide circle of students, each chapter being followed by exercises proposed for the reader to carry out so as to become practised in the various methods portrayed. A large number of subjects are covered in Part I, including pendulums and rods, individual polarity, magnets and magnetic fields, form and geometrical figures, colours, samples, remanence and parasitic images, &c. And there are interesting chapters on distant detection, amplifiers, work of various kinds done with maps or sketches, on earth rays, water prospecting, agriculture, minerals and oil, and—not least—the breeding of animals.

In a book of this size it was perhaps inevitable that some of the many subjects referred to are somewhat cursorily treated and more could have been said by way of explanation with advantage. One doubts, for instance, whether readers will gather very much from what is written on the rather baffling subject of parasitic images. In dealing with individual polarity the authoress makes it clear how different people obtain different pendulum reactions owing to some fundamental differences in their make-up in no way connected with sex, but when she goes on to say that "this curious phenomenon of polarity continually crops up whenever trials are made in the identification of simple bodies recognized by Physics as being of either positive or negative polarity," the reviewer for one is puzzled as to what class of physical data she is referring to.* Unfortunately she gives no examples of such bodies with their polarities. It may be recalled that Bovis divided matter into four classes from the point of view of polarity, discerned with a pendulum of magnetized and specially treated type. These reactions could apparently be stabilised regardless of the operator testing for them. In medicine it can be shown, after Lakhovsky, how the polarity of the body is affected by disease, but it will be appreciated that the word "polarity" can be applied in more senses than one.

Apart from minor reservations of such kinds, it should be made clear that Mme Maury has performed no mean service in collating so

* Mme. Maury probably regards radiesthetic polarity as an electrical phenomenon and is here referring to the classification of elements by chemists and physicists as either electropositive or electronegative.—Editor.

much material—much of it of a kind which can be repeated by any competent dowser—which must stimulate the interest and broaden the outlook of all who take an interest in radiesthesia. The chapters on *Radiesthesia and Agriculture* and *The Breeding of Animals* can hardly fail to interest the farmer—particularly with respect to such matters as egg-testing, sex determinations and successful mating—while there are many useful points brought out concerning prospecting for minerals and oil. It is refreshing to find a French radiesthetist emphasising the existence of a physical basis in so much of radiesthetic work, although the psychic or mental aspect is also implicit in some of the experiments described.

In the medical section Mme Maury goes very fully into the uses to which her Compensator can be put for determining the treatment to be followed and how it should be carried out, whether it be massage, osteopathy, diet, or the administration of remedies. An advantage of the method is that radiesthetists of widely varying sensitivity can by suitable adjustment of the electrical circuit obtain maximum pendular reactions—with presumably the maximum of results.

It can be fairly anticipated that experienced radiesthetists will be unable to agree with everything which Mme Maury has found to be true in her own case, for radiesthesia is still anything but an exact science and remains a very individual affair. But whatever their own methods, they will undoubtedly benefit by reading this book, which is full of ideas and suggestions for further study and research.

The by no means easy task of translating this book from the French has been ably undertaken by Colonel Bell, our President, who himself contributes a foreword. The text is assisted by diagrams and an index is provided.

V.D.W.

INITIATION À LA RADIESTHÉSIE MÉDICALE

BY W. HERRINCKX. SERVANX, BRUSSELS.

This little book, of 72 pages, sets out for the benefit of doctors and their auxiliaries simple radiesthetic methods which can be used for treating the sick. The various methods are divided into four main groups: (1) Direct search for the remedy without a diagnosis; (2) Radiesthetic diagnosis and determination of the remedy; (3) Investigation on a basis of wavelengths, after Turenne, Lesourd, Discry, &c.; (4) The psycho-somatic approach and investigation of the type of patient, based on constitution, temperament, state of the etheric body and other non-material manifestations, &c.

As to the use of rules, the Lesourd method is described as one example. There are chapters (amongst others) on the use of anatomical charts, witnesses, colours and metals, and treatment at a distance. One can say that certain of the methods described are not very practical from the busy physician's point of view, but the book, which is of an elementary character, can be read with some interest as an introduction to medical radiesthesia.

It may be of interest to some of the more recently joined B.S.D. members to mention a simple method given in the book for testing remedies for a person. The operator places a box of remedies in front of him on a table and (assuming he is right-handed) the patient, or his specimen, is placed on his right. If the patient is present, he

puts his left hand on the table, palm upwards. The operator will then hold his pendulum about 20 cm. above the patient's hand (or his specimen, if a specimen is used), and will touch each remedy in turn with the index finger of his left hand, noting the action of the pendulum meanwhile. Several remedies will probably be indicated, and the author goes on to show how a suitable combination can be made. He rightly emphasises the value of homoeopathic remedies for therapeutic purposes, as chosen by radiesthetic means.

V.D.W.

LA RADIESTHÉSIE POUR TOUS

MAY

p. 129. "Some Strange Aspects of Experiments made by Professor J. B. Rhine." As a preface to this five-page article, W. Servranx quotes Professor Rhine as follows: "It is fear, more than anything, which prevents the scientific recognition of psi phenomena . . . The experts see that if they accept extra-sensory perception and psychokinesis, they must recognise the non-physical nature of these phenomena . . . To accept non-physical activity would be to recognise two kinds of reality." The writer emphasises that phenomena studied by the professor come very close to radiesthesia, and that the psi effect, as studied by Rhine and other Anglo-Saxon psychologists, is a very general faculty, which encompasses radiesthesia.

p. 135. Voillaume pendulums. Instructions, based on *Mémento de Radiesthésie*, by A. Lambert (Maison de la Radiesthésie, Paris), are given on how to use special equipment for the accurate adjustment of the suspension length of a Voillaume pendulum.

p. 139. The late professor Jean Louis Estines. By P. Basiaux Defrance. Professor Estines, qualified to teach mathematics and the physical sciences to the young, taught in numerous schools and finished as Director of Gourdan Poligman. He then retired to Toulouse to devote himself entirely to scientific research. A great admirer of Curie, he himself became a pioneer in researches on radioactivity. By means of some extremely sensitive instruments he was able to analyse the emotions of the human brain, and these experiments led him to discover the faculty numerous people have of "feeling" certain vibrations, originating near or far. Thanks to him, the writer states, radiesthesia then became a positive science. Estines prospected the Pyrenees from east to west and the two watersheds, locating not only numerous metal lodes (whether developed or not), but above all the oil wells which were one day to make France independent of foreign ventures. His work proved highly accurate. He was the first to proclaim (through his radiesthetic work) the wealth of the Pyrenees in liquid and gaseous fuels. He died in 1929, unrecognized and disdained by the Academy of Science.

p. 141. A Federation of European Healers. The weekly Journal *Ici Paris* published in its number of February 9th-15th a remarkable report by Jacques Ferrier on the subject of German healers. Amongst other things he said there were about 10 million Germans who employ healers, out of the Federal Republic's 48 million inhabitants. Germany has always been by tradition the country of healers, who are protected by special ordinances. For example, they have the right to make up pharmaceutical prescriptions. In Western Germany, so it is stated, there are 2,200 authorised healers.

p. 144. "From Reason to Destiny." R. Jacquet describes how the state of different organs can be ascertained by holding a pendulum over a photograph of the subject, the particular organ and its state being decided by the number of gyrations the pendulum has made and their amplitude. The writer also shows how certain information, including forecasting the future, can be obtained by holding a pendulum over a footprint.

p. 150. Tuberculosis. Mme. V. Autriche writes on pulmonary tuberculosis and the value of radiesthesia in both treating and preventing it. She mentions an electrical method used by a Dr. Van den Zype, who ignores the usual procedures. It appears that the organs to be treated are subjected to an ionising effect.

p. 155. "The Soil and Life." Pierre Bories discourses on the effects of the soil and the air immediately above it on the health of the individual, and in this connection he quotes the old adage that you should keep the head cool and the feet warm! It is said that the earth constitutes an enormous field of negative electricity vis-a-vis the atmosphere, which is charged positively. Several years ago M. Bories installed two electrodes of identical composition in his garden, of 0.60m. length and about 50m. apart, orientated E-W. These electrodes are connected by well insulated above-ground copper wires to an apparatus which enables him to measure the pressure of the ground currents in a predetermined zone. The soil is alluvial to a depth of 0.80m. with gravel, and at about 3m. depth there is a bed of clay in which is a supply of water, both abundant and extensive. In a storm in 1949 the writer noticed a reversal of voltage, which lasted three days, and the same phenomenon has occurred at other times. The voltages recorded were significant. He thinks such phenomena may help to explain the effects of the soil on the life of those living above it.

JUNE

p. 161. A programme of talks on the Belgian broadcasting system on paranormal phenomena, arranged by the Para Society, is reproduced, and is criticised for including speakers who are known to be antagonistic towards the subjects they are down to discuss. Several of the talks are on different aspects of radiesthesia. It may be recalled that *L.R.P.T.* has criticised the Para organization before for its unscientific attitude towards radiesthesia. It expresses here its astonishment that the Belgian radio should put its microphones at the disposal of a campaign of defamation waged for professional ends. And it remarks that in foreign countries, where paranormal phenomena are discussed on the radio, such as Radio Française, the B.B.C., Luxembourg and Hilversum, this is done in an objective manner.—*L.R.P.T.*

p. 163. A training exercise. A photograph of a garden in the south-west of France is reproduced where plants are seen growing up, and one is invited to say exactly where the site is, state the nature of the soil, annual mean temperature of the place, and to say what the plants are.

p. 165. Medicine of to-day and to-morrow. Marcel Perreaux discusses the psychosomatic aspect of medicine and "mental" influences in the maintenance and restoration of health.

p. 169. Extracts are given from the eighth report of the Scientific Commission of Control of the Works of the Experimental Section of

Radiesthesia (under the auspices of the Belgo-Luxembourg Federation of Radiesthetic Circles), submitted by Dr. L. Keffler (B.S.D.), one-time assistant lecturer and head of the thermochemistry department in Liverpool University. The extracts treat of a test where three different witnesses, A, B and C, were taken and nine others chosen, of which three were identical to A, three to B and three to C. The object was to find to which of the witnesses, A, B and C, the other nine witnesses respectively belonged, and M. G. Oudette undertook the test with the help of his Ondobiometer. M. Oudette attained a high measure of success.

p. 173. For beginners. W. Servranx recommends that beginners in radiesthesia should not attempt at first to discover the unknown, but should familiarise themselves with the reactions of the pendulum where all the facts concerned in the tests are known.

p. 177. A simple amplifier. By F. Servranx. If you cut two squares, 10cm. by 10cm., of fine wire mesh as used for flour sieves, the two squares placed one on top of the other make an excellent amplifier, useful for many purposes. When carrying out a prospection out of doors or working from a plan, the witness should be placed on the amplifier and the reactions of the pendulum will be greatly strengthened and will give increased precision. A sensation of heaviness will be felt, which (it is said) will contribute to the clearness of the reactions. Mistakes seem to be reduced to something quite insignificant. A word witness should be placed between the two squares instead of on top of them. Moreover, if you place a word-witness, which has just been written, between the two meshes and place on top a small quantity of sugar (or a tube containing a little powder like talc, rice, kaolin, &c.) the sugar or powder will be strongly impregnated with the influence of what the word-witness denotes—in less than five minutes. A word-witness, in fact, when placed between the two meshes, is immediately activated. This amplifier can also be used for magnetising water, &c. A small glass of water placed on the two meshes is magnetised in less than three minutes (bubbles will appear on the side of the glass). The water is good to drink and seems efficacious for fighting against the effects of harmful earth rays.

p. 179. The "syntoniser." C. François describes an apparatus employed for determining syntonisation or resonance between a witness and what it represents. The instrument consists of a stand supporting a parabolic mirror or "diffuser," made of duralumin, in the bottom of which the witness is placed. A non-excited coil built around the upper part of the diffuser augments the influence. A hinged cover closes the top of the diffuser and a vertical tube ascends from its centre, the top end of the tube being fitted with a wide knurled nut for supporting the left hand. The height of the nut above the witness is about 21cm. In using this apparatus the pendulum is first regulated over the witness lying at the bottom of the diffuser, and then the left hand is placed over the top of the tube (resting on the nut), while the pendulum is held in the right hand above the centre of an orientated dial (similar to a compass card). The pendulum will then oscillate in the direction of the object sought.

p. 180. Medical radiesthesia. W. Herrinckx puts forward a simple method of diagnosis by which certain causes of the illness or affection of the patient were first postulated, or more or less guessed at, con-

firmation as to whether the suppositions made are correct or not being left to the pendulum to decide. Certain advantages are claimed for this system.

p. 182. Pierre Bories continues his articles on the soil and life and discusses the incidence of cancer at places where harmful radiations from the ground are believed to exist. He thinks that everyone has the cancer "germ" in his system, but that it only develops when the subject is living in ground favourable to its evolution.

p. 185. Spectacles. J. Bervroux warns radiesthetists who wear spectacles of ways in which the glasses can cause errors. He says, amongst other things, that the pendulum should always be held well in front of the operator and not on either side.

p. 186. Adverse comments are made on the proposal of a journal, *Semaine du Monde*, published in Paris, to carry out plans to investigate the work of healers, with the assistance of M. Marcel Berger, member of the Society of Psychical Research. It is suggested that N. Berger has been concerned with propaganda against healers under the auspices of the Para organization.—*L.R.P.T.*

p. 188. The value of discs is emphasised for much of the radiesthetic work of a laboratory nature. In this article a good deal of reliance is placed on the mental, or psychic, method of using the discs, whereby the employment of witnesses is said to be largely rendered unnecessary.

p. 189. It is reported that M. Henry de France has been making a two-months' stay in Tunis, during which he has carried out a dozen prospectings and given 10 lectures, including three for Sté. Tunisienne de Radiesthésie, who have more than 100 members.

p. 190. At one of its recent meetings the Syndicat (Français) des Pharmacies et Laboratoires Homéopathiques Speciaux appears to have attributed to the impact of radiesthesia a good deal of the responsibility for the disputes of this organization with the pharmaceutical officials.

p. 191. Radiesthesia and art. This article is by M. Roger Barbier, who claims that his pendulum will indicate those pictures which the critics will accept and acclaim. A photographic reproduction shows him with his pendulum in his right hand and touching the canvas of a painting with the fingers of his left hand.

JULY

p. 193. A short reference is made to the colour method of Dr. Leprince for diagnosing disease. A "prismatic" pendulum and screens of different colours are employed, each colour corresponding to some particular malady.—*L.R.P.T.*

p. 194. The attainment of 75 years of age by the radiesthetist, Professor L. C. Mohlberg, was made a special occasion in Rome. A professor of Church history and archaeology, he became interested in radiesthesia as taught by Bähr and Mermet.

p. 195. Professor Keffler (B.S.D.) recalls a case where the body of a murdered child could not be traced by 40 police dogs and several radiesthetists (including the famous Peter Hurkos, of Holland), and it was afterwards found that the body had been pitched into a cess-pool before being buried near the child's home a little way down under a shed. The explorer Gaisseau has recounted how in Central Africa naked pigmies, in hunting elephants, have covered themselves with

the fresh excrement from the animals before they closed on their prey. Through this the elephants were unable to get their scent, and it was possible for a young pigmy to approach right under the belly of an elephant and to strike with a poisoned spear before the animal knew of his presence. Alain Gheerbrandt, who has made explorations in South America, has told how a dog will instinctively cover himself with his paw with the excrement of an armadillo he has just set upon and killed so that he is all the more easily able to track down another victim. Professor Keffler suggests that there is a connection between the case of the murdered child and that of the pigmies and of the dog. And he considered that such happenings refute the contention of those who deny the existence of a physical basis in radiesthetic work of this kind.

p. 197. Roger Barbier gives a résumé of a lecture on underground water and its interpretation by M. J. Calte under the auspices of A.A.R. There are three main kinds of water, viz.: rain water, water from snow, and the mineral waters. The latter are strongly radioactive and excellent drinking for men and animals. The writer goes on to describe the reactions obtained from underground water flows and the errors which are liable to be made in estimating depth and quantity, according to the nature of the subsoil. M. Calte, who specialises in the rod, only works when the sun is out.

p. 203. W. Servranx emphasises that the beginner is bound to make mistakes, but that he should not become depressed about it; by repeating suitable radiesthetic exercises his skill will undoubtedly improve. He will find in time what kinds of researches he is best at and in what kind of radiesthetic activities he will be most successful.

p. 205. Reference is made to the camera developed by the Delawarr Laboratories with which photographs of organs, disease conditions, &c., can be taken from a blood or saliva smear without the presence of the patient. An electronic instrument is also referred to, demonstrated in London recently, which intensifies and renders clearer an X-ray picture as shown on a screen.

p. 207. W. Herrinckx reproduces a number of diagrams which are claimed to have healing power. Mr. Marcel Perreaux was the originator of the idea. It is said that radiesthetists can find their own diagrams by mental orientation with the help of the pendulum. The diagrams can be used to magnetise water for drinking purposes, in conjunction with a photograph of the patient for distant treatment, or for carrying on the person.

p. 211. "Vibration des Formes." By Charles François. A circular diagram based on the Chinese Yn-Yang, which is said to be a strong emitter of radiesthetic emanations, is reproduced. It is said to make a good witness for various radiesthetic researches.

p. 212. Switzerland. The Swiss Federation of Radiesthesia (La Fédération Suisse de Radiesthésie), which has headquarters at Geneva, recently held a reunion of delegates from each of its branches at Bienne. Experiments were carried out with an oscillograph and other apparatus for the detection of harmful earth rays, underground springs and for the assessment of human vitality, &c.

p. 213. Numerology. J. Bervroux asserts that all numbers as written down will influence the pendulum, but only at certain times will this influence reach a maximum for any particular number. In

radiesthetic experiments in numerology each letter should be drawn fairly large on a separate piece of paper. From the numerological aspect, apparently, each number syntonises with an influence which, amongst its other properties, points to the future or fate of the individual.

p. 214. Jean Martial gives examples of specious arguments put forward in *Sciences Sélection* in condemnation of dowsing.

p. 217. P. Basiaux Defrance affirms the importance of light contact passes over the body as a therapeutic measure, whereby vitality is transferred to the subject. We transfer vibrations of Nature, he says, through the great sympathetic nervous system, where there is a close connection in particular between the spinal marrow and the brain—that is to say, in the region of the nape of the neck.

p. 218. J. Leplus writes interestingly on the important subjects of electrobiology, radiesthesia and acupuncture. He quotes various authorities to show that the electrical resistance of human beings is influenced by three factors: Psychological (emotion), physiological (nerves) and pathological (illness). (See *L.R.P.T.* for March, 1953, p. 69; also *Radio-Perception* for June, 1953, p. 107). Amongst other things we read in this article that a Dr. Dimier, who has had to do with the electrical departments in hospitals, in collaboration with a M. Soulié, has put forward the hypothesis that human energy is either entirely electrical, or is at any rate conveyed by measurable electric waves. Shortly before his death he measured with a highly sensitive galvanometer the waves coming from the human body and found them most marked along the length of the meridians, and still more at the level of the Chinese points of acupuncture. Generally speaking, the galvanometric deflections were very small in the case of those who were exhausted, but increased greatly for those who were excited or tense.

p. 221. Pierre Borics continues his articles on soil and life and discusses the geological and chemical influences of the soil. He develops the theme that the endemic diseases of a country are delimited to a great extent by the geological and topographical terrain.

V.D.W.

RADIESTHÉSIE INTERNATIONALE

The first number of a new journal, that for June, July, 1953, called *Radiesthésie Internationale*, to be issued every two months, has now appeared. Under the editorship of M. P. M. Boirac, it succeeds and replaces *La Revue Internationale de Radiesthésie* which ceased to appear after No. 31 last year.

This number contains, amongst others, articles by Dr. D. D. McLaughlin, of the Government Hospital at Boksburg, Transvaal, on a new treatment for duodenal ulcers; by Maurice Le Gall on the practice of Medical Radiesthesia; by Dr. Charles Fouque on the power of homoeopathy; and notes on the acquittal on charges of the illegal practice of medicine of the "magnetiser" M. Toulon at Annecy, the healer Alalouf at Paris, the healer Georges Cabrollet at Monceaux-les-Mines, of MM. Turenne and Jacquemin at Nice and of the healer Bourse at Toulouse. There are also articles by Pierre Béasse on fine adjustment of the pendulum and by Alex Dubourg describing an instrument called Capacitron, an "electron gun" in which 3 million

volts can be developed capable of destroying micro-organisms in a fraction of a second and therefore of preserving food for long periods.

There are sections dealing with Radiesthesia in European countries, reviews of books and a final section dealing with distant prospection under the editorship of M. Emile Christophe. A.H.B.

ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR RADIÄSTHESIE. V; 1

JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1953

In an article by Bogdan N. Djoritsch, an engineer of Belgrade, the writer introduces some of his own observations on the influence of geometrical figures, after reference to the work of Pierre Auger on cosmic rays, Jean Martial on the Cheops Pyramid, and Abbé Mermet and Noel on the connecting rays (*Verbindungsstrahlen*) between elements and compounds.

His own investigations were upon a figure formed by concentric circles, broken so that all the openings lay in one straight line, and he says that he noticed a strong emanation from the centre, when the lines of the openings in the broken circles lay in a N-S direction. His figure actually shows this direction as pointing to the North from the centre. He describes the effect of this emanation as follows:—

"In the centre of the circle I placed a piece of zinc, and near by, outside the circle and not in the N-S direction, a piece of copper. It is known that there is no connecting ray between zinc and copper. The piece of zinc had hardly been a few seconds in the centre of the circle (that is to say a much shorter time than in Noel's experiment) when the pendulum indicated the connecting ray. I left the zinc about 5 minutes in the circle, then took it out (but not with bare fingers), and kept it for some time, each day observing it with a pendulum that had been attuned to copper. The piece of zinc behaved like copper, that is to say it had the connecting ray and neutral point with the piece of copper. This lasted for about 10-15 days. Of course the radiation gradually became weaker, and finally there was again a zinc emanation."

He also experimented with various drugs.

A posthumous paper by Dr. Glasser is published in this issue, its subject the connection between "earth rays" and cancer. Dr. Glasser examined the blood of 343 patients, among whom he detected 30 who were threatened with cancer. Among these 30, however, were six who showed no organic cancer condition. On examination of the living conditions of these six suspects, by an experienced dowser, it was found that "water veins" existed either underneath their bedrooms or in the kitchens, and in each case an improvement in their health was noticed after the use of a protective apparatus.

Dr. Franz Wetzel has been called upon by a legal Court to give his opinion upon the defence brought forward by a lorryman, accused of dangerous driving, that the cause of his accident had been due to harmful rays at the point where his error in steering occurred.

He sums up his opinions as follows:—

(1). In principle it may be accepted that traffic accidents linked with definite positions on a road may be due to geopathic zones (earth rays), but the probability is small that one particular case will be due to such a cause.

(2). It is more likely that the atmospheric conditions disturbed the driver, if the former could be measured accurately.

(3). Since from recent climatological observations it appears that certain disturbing influences (radiations) seem to concentrate more strongly on geopathic zones than over neutral places, it might occur that, by an actual coincidence of a sensitive driver in a geopathic zone during a meteorological disturbance, he might experience a sudden "shock" causing either a momentary black-out or an involuntary motion. In this way it might be regarded as causing the accident.

(4). Since, however, in the case under consideration (according to Dr. Wetzel's measurements) there was no outstanding geopathic influence it did not seem likely that the driver's plea could stand. If he was a sensitive he might have been affected by weather conditions; by not by earth rays.

V ; 2 ; MARCH-APRIL

The editor writes a diatribe against attacks upon radiesthesia, made by two German broadcasting doctors. He recounts that such attacks have been constant since 1932, and mentions that in 1941 radiesthesia was classified as occult, and that Dr. Paul Beyer, the then President of the Association, as well as the writer, suffered under the Gestapo. As is known, the Association again dared to raise its head in 1948, and seems now to be in a very flourishing condition; but one can easily understand that Dr. Wetzel, with his memories of past persecution under tyranny, is alert to refute such attacks.

Herr P. B. Bieler contributes a short article on the specific emanations of different stones, the presence of which may give rise to deceptive determinations by dowzers. He recounts different phenomena which he has observed in such stones saying that some react in a positive and others in a negative manner (presumably by positive and negative he refers to the action of such stones on his pendulum). He writes, "When I put stones of a positive and negative type together they increased in their radiation." He measures the strength of the radiation by the number of turns he obtains.

The editor recommends members to put the author's observations to the test and would be glad to receive reports.

Dr. Deibel contributes another collection of reports on thunderstorms during April, giving photographs.

V ; 3 ; MAY-JUNE

Plans are given in this number for the Summer Meeting. Summer Meetings with the *Verband* are strenuous occasions. The meeting this year is to be held at Weinheim in the Odenwald, and is to last from Friday, August 14th, at midday, to Monday, August 17th.

A doctor and an engineer, Doctors Hartmann and Hahn, publish a paper in which they state that they are convinced that their observations bring convincing proof that the rod reaction can be correlated with changes in the conductivity of the ground under observation. They connect their own dowsing reaction points with definite minima on a graph illustrating electrometric observations by Professor Tromp.

R. D. Wetschky writes a panegyric on the late Dr. A. Wendler, an outstanding pioneer of scientific radiesthesia, who died in his 80th year on May 5th of this year.

E.S.T.

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